



PURCELL FIRE, APACHE-SITGREAVES NATIONAL FOREST

Information Office: 928-333-6336; pager 928-601-8037 Date: May 19, 2006, 4:00 p.m.

LOCATION: The Purcell Fire is located about 30 miles southwest of Winslow, AZ and about 9 miles northwest of Heber, AZ on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. The terrain is relatively flat above numerous canyons.

STARTED: May 18, 2006 **Acres:** 100 **CAUSE:** probably lightning **CONTAINED:** 0%

FUELS: The Purcell Fire is named after a nearby geographic feature – Purcell Canyon. The fire is burning in pinyon pine and juniper vegetation.

SUMMARY: Smoke from the Purcell fire is minimal today. There are some hot spots in the interior of the fire with flare ups on the south size. There was some cloud cover today and some precipitation.

OBJECTIVES: Crews will continue to try to stop the forward advance of the fire and improve containment lines on the flank. Dozers will continue building line around perimeter of fire.

CONCERNS: The terrain is relatively flat and very rocky in areas; safety of fire crews is paramount. The temperatures today will be record highs for the area and breezy this afternoon.

RESOURCES: There are 2 Type 3 Engines, 4 Type 6 Engines, 3 Dozers, 2 Hot Shots Crews, several hand crews and a 6000 gallon water truck. One helicopter doing bucket drops on the fire. One air tanker and one seat. Currently there are 100 personnel assigned to the Purcell Fire.

RESTRICTIONS: There are no travel restrictions in the area and Forest Road 504 and 153 remain open. We ask that folks do not travel to the area due to increased fire traffic. There are no structures threaten at this time.

INCIDENT COMMAND POST LOCATION: Junction of the Forest Road 504 and 153.